

Message Text

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ACTION CU-04

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R 101820Z AUG 73

FM AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8728

INFO TUEHIA/USIA WASHDC 0665

AMEMBASSY BRIDGETOWN

AMEMBASSY KINGSTON

AMEMBASSY PORT OF SPAIN

UNCLAS GEORGETOWN 1190

DEPT FOR CU

USIA FOR ILA

E.O. 11652: N,;

5-& : SCUL

SUBJECT: EDUCATIONAL AND CULTURAL EXCHANGES WITH GUYANA

REF: GEORGETOWN AIRGRAM A-70, AUGUST 1, 1973 (NOTAL)

1. SUMMARY: GUYANA SEEKING DIRECT CONTROL OVER ALL FOREIGN CULTURAL, EDUCATIONAL AND TRAINING GRANTS. MISSION PROPOSES DEALING THROUGH GOV'T. IF REQUIRED BUT RETAINING FINAL SAY IN SELECTIONS. END SUMMARY.

2. USIS AND USAID REPRESENTATIVES ATTENDED MEETING WITH GOG OFFICIALS AUGUST 7 TO DISCUSS DRAFT PAPER CONTAINED IN REFAIR. PERMANENT SECRETARY OF PUBLIC SERVICE MINISTRY (PSM) CHAIRED MEETING WHICH REVEALED FOLLOWING:

A. DRAFT PAPER NOT YET PASSED OUTSIDE PSM FOR APPROVAL, BUT PSM EMPHASIZED THAT IT DIRECTLY UNDER PRIME MINISTER INDICATING NO PROBLEM ANTICIPATED OBTAINING CABINET APPROVAL.

B. PAPER WILL BE SUBMITTED AS IS WITH MINOR NON-SUBSTANTIVE UNCLASSIFIED

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CHANGES AGREED TO AT MEETING.

C. PSM REPEATEDLY MADE POINT THAT ALL GRANTS OF ANY KIND MUST BE ADMINISTERED ON GOVERNMENT-TO-GOVERNMENT LEVEL.

D. ALL REQUESTS FROM PRIVATE ORGANIZATIONS CONCERNING EXCHANGES OR TRAINING MUST BE REFERRED TO PSM FOR ACTION.

E. PSM INDICATED REQUIREMENTS UNDER 4. (VII) INCLUDING TWELVE WEEK NOTIFICATION REQUIREMENT, DESIRABLE BUT NOT NECESSARY.

F. WHEN ASKED ABOUT DONOR GOVERNMENT'S VOTE ON SELECTION COMMITTEE OUTLINED IN 4. (XI), PSM REPLIED COMMITTEE HAD NOT BEEN ENVISAGED AS VOTING ON SELECTIONS. NO FURTHER CLARIFICATION OFFERED.

3. REPS OF SEVERAL GOVERNMENTS PRESENT MADE POINT THAT CULTURAL EXCHANGE GRANTS (OBSERVATION TOURS, JOURNALIST VISITS, ETC.) ARE NOT TRAINING PROGRAMS AND SHOULD NOT BE AFFECTED.

SAID PROPOSED PROCEDURES MUST BE FOLLOWED FOR SUCH GRANTS

ALTHOUGH SELECTION OF CANDIDATES MAY BE MADE BY OTHER GOG MINISTRIES OR AGENCIES, BUTH THAT WOULD BE PSM DECISION. THUS ALL IV, CIP, AND MULTI-NATIONAL JOURNALIST AND RADIO GRANTS MUST BE SUBMITTED TO PSM FOR ITS SELECTION OF CANDIDATES. (NO USAID GRANTS AFFECTED BY PROPOSED PAPER.) CANADA AND UK ASKED FOR TIME TO QUERY THEIR GOVERNMENTS AND WRITE REPLY TO PSM LTHIS AREA. GOG AGREED TO HOLD UP ACTION TWO TO THREE WEEKS.

4. MISSION PLANS TO PROVIDE PSM OUR VIEWS IN WRITING AND PROPOSES

FOLLOWING SUBJECT CU CONCURRENCE:

A. MISSION WILL ASK THAT USIS BE ELIMINATED FROM LISTING IN

SECTION 3.(III) OF DRAFT PAPER AND THAT UNITED STATES BE INCLUDED UNDER 3.(I) FOREIGN GOVERNMENTS. MISSION WISHES MAKE CLEAR THAT CU GRANTS OFFERED BY US GOVERNMENT THROUGH ITS DIPLOMATIC REPRESENTATIVES NOT "LOCALLY-BASED FOREIGN GOVERNMENT AID AGENCY".

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B. IF ACCEPTABLE TO CU, MISSION WILL PROPOSE THAT EMBASSY NOMINATE CANDIDATE(S) FOR IV-TYPE GRANT TO PSM FOR ITS APPROVAL OF SELECTEES WHO ARE GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES AND COMMENTS ON THOSE FROM PRIVATE LIFE WITH PROVISIO THAT FINAL SELECTION MUST REMAIN WITH EMBASSY OR GRANTS WILL NOT BE MADE.

C. WITH APPROVAL CU AND CIP, MISSION WILL PROPOSE THAT IP

NOTIFY PSM OF CIP GRANTS AND ASK THAT PSM ADVERTISE FOR SUITABLE CANDIDATES. IN PAST MISSION CONTACTED CONCERNED ORGANIZATIONS DIRECTLY. IF PSM WILL SOLICITE CANDIDATES AND ALLOW CIP REP TO INTERVIEW AND MAKE FINAL SELECTION OF GRANTEES, THIS PROGRAM MAY NOT BE SERIOUSLY AFFECTED.

5. MISSION NOT TOO HOPEFULL THAT ABOVE APPROACH WILL BE ACCEPTABLE. WE SHOULD TRY TO SALVAGE BUT NOT AT COST OF LOSING CONTROL PARTICULARLY OVER IVS.
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